

REMARKS

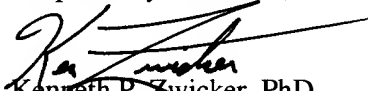
Applicants have amended the specification to reply to the Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures, dated 27 March 2002; a copy of said Notice is attached with this response.

Specifically, Applicants have submitted a paper copy of the Sequence Listing and Computer Readable Form (CRF) of the Sequence Listing as provided under 37 C.F.R. §1.821(c) and §1.821(e), respectively, and in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.822-1.824. No new matter is added.

Applicants further provide herewith statements required under 37 C.F.R. §1.821(f) and (g) that the paper copy and computer readable form of the Sequence Listing are the same in content, and contain no new matter.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants believe that their application is in compliance with the requirements for patent applications containing nucleotide sequence and/or amino acid sequence disclosures. Examination of the present application on the merits and allowance of the pending claims are, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

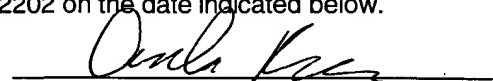


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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Asst. Commissioner for Patents, US Patent and Trademark Office, Box Sequence, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202 on the date indicated below.

16 MAY 2002  
Date of mailing and signature

  
Angela Perno